CLAIMS

1. A method for automatically configuring a network appliance, comprising the steps of:

   downloading data from an HTML page accessed during a session;

   parsing the HTML code of said downloaded data to determine an action and identify configuration information to accompany said action;

   transmitting configuration information to said appliance; and

   configuring said appliance with said configuration information in accordance with said action.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein said downloading step further comprises the steps of:

   storing said downloaded data in the memory of said Internet appliance; and

   configuring said appliance from said stored data.

3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of:

   notifying said appliance when new information is available at said HTML page regarding changes to said appliance.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein said appliance is an Internet-compatible telephone.

5. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a selectable area on a graphical user display of said Internet appliance, wherein said HTML page is accessed in response to the selection of said area.

6.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

storing a profile in said appliance; and

using said profile to customize said data downloaded to said appliance.

5   7. .   A system for automatically configuring a network appliance, comprising:

means for downloading data from an HTML page accessed during a session, wherein said data include an action and configuration information for said appliance;

a parser for parsing the HTML code of said downloaded data;

means for transmitting configuration information obtained by parsing said

10   HTML code to said appliance; and

means for configuring said appliance with said configuration information in accesses with said action.

8.   The system of Claim 7, further comprising;

a memory accessible to said appliance for storing said downloaded data,

15   wherein said appliance is reconfigurable from said stored data.

9.   The system of Claim 7, further comprising;

a notification module associated with said HTML page for notifying said

20   appliance when new information regarding changes to said appliance is available on said HTML page.

10.   The system of Claim 7, further comprising;

a selectable area on a graphical user display of said appliance, wherein said

25   HTML page is accessed in response to the selection of said area.

11. .   The system of Claim 7, further comprising;

a profile stored in said appliance, wherein said profile is used to customize said data downloaded to said appliance.

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12.   The system of Claim 7, wherein said appliance is an Internet-compatible telephone;

13.   A method for asserting an action at a network compliance, comprising the steps of :

establishing a network connection between said appliance and a server, wherein said appliance accesses HTML pages resident at said server;

accessing such HTML pages with said appliance, wherein said HTML page includes at least one uniform resource locator (URL) having the format host; and appliance function;

wherein said URL calls internal functions of said appliance.

14.   The method of Claim 13, wherein said URL puts information into said appliance.

15.   The method of Claim 13, wherein said URL gets information from said appliance.

16.   A graphical user interface, comprising:

an HTML coded user interface portion;

wherein each uniform resource locator (URL) embedded in said HTML code provides access to either of an entry point or exit point in an underlying computer program.